

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

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R 310330 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6271

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 3851

EO11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ID

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK' S WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: JAKARTA 3054 - 3321 - 3582 - 3645 - 3648 - 3780

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

SUMMARY: AT WEEK LY PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 29, MALIK
SAID PRC FOREIGN MINISTER HAD INFORMED HIM IN FEBRUARY
THAT PEKING WOULD REFRAIN FROM SUPPORTING ANTI- GOVERNMENT
ACTIVITIES BY OVERSEAS CHINESE AND THAT THIS REPRESENTED
" PROGRESS" TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF JAKARTA- PEKING RELATIONS.
HE ALSO DROPPED FURTHER HINTS OF MORE RAPID MOVEMENT
TOWARD RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS WITH THE PRC. CONCERNING
THE FILIPINO MUSLIM INSURGENCY, MALIK SAID THE GOI HAD
ASKED MANILA TO PROTECT THE FILIPINO MUSLIMS, BUT HE ALSO
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EXPRESSED DISAPPROVAL OF EFFORTS AT " OUTSIDE INTEFERENCE"

IN THIS MATTER WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS AN INTERNAL PROBLEM OF A FRIENDLY ASEAN NEIGHBOR. MALIK ALSO HINTED AGAIN THAT LEE KUAN YEW WOULD SOON BE FORMALLY INVITED TO JAKARTA, STATED THAT INDONESIA WOULD NOT SUPPORT AN ANTI- COLONIAL MOVEMENT IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR, SINCE NONE EXISTED THERE, AND THAT THE GOI DISAPPROVED OF NUCLEAR TESTS IN THE PACIFIC, ALTHOUGHT IT WOULD NOT OFFICIALLY PROTEST THE FORTHCOMING FRENCH TESTS. END SUMMARY.

1. INDONESIA AND PRC RELATIONS . MALIK SAID HE MET WITH PRC FOREIGN MINISTER CHI PENG FEI SEVERAL TIMES IN PARIS DURING THE FEBRUARY 1972 CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM AND THAT CHI HAD PROMISED HIM THAT PEKING HAD ABOLISHED ITS " SPECIAL BUREAU" FOR OVERSEAS CHINESE ACTIVITIES AND HAD EXPLAINED TO VOERSEAS CHINESE THAT THEY MUST BE LOYAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS IN THE COUNTRIES WHERE THEY LIVED.

2. MALIK SAID THE WAS INFORMED THAT CHI' S ASSURANCES WERE AN OFFICIAL GUARANTEE SUPPORTED BY CHOU EN- LAI AND HE COMMENTED THAT THEY REPRESENTED " PROGRESS" TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF GOI- PRC RELATIONS . THE RESULTS OF HIS MEETING WITH CHI WERE " PLEASING" TO BOTH SIDES, HE SAID, ADDING THAT HE AND CHI HAD AGREED THAT FURTHER CONTACTS BETWEEN THE GOI AND THE PRC WOULD TAKE PLACE AT THE UN AND IN GENEVA. MALIK SAID THERE WERE SOME " OTHER INTERESTING DEVELOPMENTS" AS A RESULT OF THIS CONVERSATIONS WITH CHI BUT THAT HE COULD SAY NOTHING FURTHER ABOUT THEM. HE ADVISED REPORTEERS TO COMPARE THE TONE OF PRESIDENT SUHARTO' S REMARKS ABOUT RELATIONS WITH PEKING IN HIS SPEECH O FAUGUST 16, 1972 AND THE PRESIDENT' S COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT IN HIS ADDRESS OF MARCH 12 TO THE MPR. SUHARTO' S COMMENTS IN THE LATTER SPEECH, HE SAID, WERE Milder AND SHOWED THAT THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED. (JAKARTA 8356-8/72-- JAKARTA 3054-3/73)

3. MALIK REPEATED HIS EARLIER COMMENTS TO THE PRESS (JAKARTA 3780) THAT THE ASEAN NATIONS SHOULD FACE THE PROBLEM OF TIES WITH PEKING JOINTLY, ALTHOUGH THEIR DECISIONS CONCERNING TIMING NEED NOT BE UNDERTAKEN JOINTLY. HE SAID AGAIN THAT INDONESIA WISHES TO GIVE ITS ASEAN NEIGHBORS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PREPARE
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THEMSELVES FOR RELATIONS WITH THE PRC FIRST, BEFORE ACTING ITSELF.

4. THE PHILIPPINO MISLIM PROBLEM. MALIK DESCRIBED THE SULU INSURGENCY IN THE PHILIPPINES AS AN INTERNAL PROBLEM OF A FRIENDLY ASEAN NEIGHBOR AND SAID INDONESIA HAD MADE IT CLEAR FROMTHE BEGINNING THAT IT DISAPPROVED OF EFFORTS OF OTHERS TO " INTERFERE" IN THE PROBLEM. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO HAD PERSONALLY ASKED

MARCOS TO PROTECT THE FILIPINO MUSLIM MINORITY LAST YEAR WHEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS MET IN MANILA AND THAT HE, MALIK, HAD MADE A SIMILAR REQUEST TO ROMULO AT THE FEBRUARY ASEAN MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR. HE SAID A VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES BY A FACT-FINDING MISSION SPONSORED BY THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AT BENGHAZI WOULD HAVE INDONESIA'S BLESSING, AND THAT THE PHILIPPINES HAD EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO RECEIVE SUCH A MISSION. THERE IS MUCH "CONFUSION" SURROUNDING THIS PROBLEM, MALIK NOTED, SUCH AS THE MISTAKE OF CONFUSING THE FILIPINO MUSLIMS WITH THE MAOIST INSURGENTS THERE.

5. MALIK ACKNOWLEDGED DISCUSSING THE SULU PROBLEM WITH SABAH PRIME MINISTER TUN MUSTAPHA DURING THE LATTER'S RECENT PRIVATE VISIT TO JAKARTA AND SAID THAT TUN MUSTAPHA CLAIMED HE WAS NOT GIVING ARMS TO THE SULU REBELS AND ONLY WISHES PROPER TREATMENT FOR THE MUSLIMS IN THE SOUTH PHILIPPINES(JAKARTA 3645, 3648).

6. A VISIT FROM LEE KUAN YEW. MALIK AGAIN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PRIME MINISTER LEE WOULD VISIT INDONESIA IN THE "NEAR FUTURE". A WRITTEN INVITATION HAS NOT YET BEEN SENT TO LEE, HE SAID, BUT AN INVITATION HAS BEEN CONVEYED VERBALLY. MALIK STRESSED THAT RECIPROCAL VISITS BY LEADERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD ELIMINATE THE "PSYCHOLOGICAL BARRIERS" WHICH REMAIN BETWEEN THEM (JAKARTA 3582).

7. PORTUGUESE TIMOR AND ANTI-COLONIALISM. MALIK COMMENTED THAT INDONESIA CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE ANTI-COLONIAL ASPIRATIONS OF SUBJECT PEOPLE EVERYWHERE, AS EVIDENCED BY ITS SUPPORT FOR THE REMAINING COLONIZED NATIONS IN AFRICA. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT COLONIALISM IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR IS A VESTIGE OF THE PAST, BUT SAID
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THAT ON THE OTHER HAND INDONESIA CANNOT DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS, SINCE THE PEOPLE OF PORTUGUESE TIMOR ARE MAKING THE EFFORT TO FREE THEMSELVES OF COLONIAL RULE. IF THE SITUATION CHANGES, HE SAID, INDONESIA WOULD ASSIST IN SUCH VARIOUS WAYS, INCLUDING CARRYING OUT A "DIALOGUE" WITH PORTUGAL.

8. FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS. ASKED ABOUT INDONESIA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS PLANNED FOR MID-1973, MALIK SAID THE GOI WOULD NOT ISSUE A PROTEST TO THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOI HAS MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT IT OPPOSES TESTS OF NUCLEAR BOMBS AND THAT ITS PREVIOUS STATEMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT WERE AN ADEQUATE EXPRESSION OF ITS VIEWS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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9. COMMENT: MALIK'S INCREASING VOLUBILITY ON THE SUBJECT OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH PEKING IS ANOTHER SIGN THAT THE MOMENTUM TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF TIES WITH PEKING IS QUICKENING (SEE JAKARTA 3321 FOR MALIK'S HINTS TO AMBASSADOR ON NEE DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS AREA). IN THE PAST, GOI LEADERS HAVE CITED THE CONTINUING THREAT OF PEKING INVOLVEMENT IN INTERNAL SUBVERSIONS AS THE MAJOR BARRIER TO RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS. THE ASSURANCES IN THIS RESPECT WHICH MALIK SAID HE RECEIVED FROM PRC FOREIGN MINISTER CHI IN PARIS CAN BE INTERPRETED AS HAVING REMOVED THIS OBSTACLE. HOWEVER, THE FINAL DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT CHINESE INVOLVMENT IN INTERNAL INDONESIAN SECURITY NO LONGER REPRESENTS A BARRIER TO RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS, WILL LIE WITH MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE CIRCLES.
GALBRAITH

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